



# PRESS RELEASE

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250

Ag Statistics Hotline: 1-800-727-9540 • [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).



Media Contact: USDA-NASS West Virginia Statistical Office, Charleston, WV 25305, or call 1 (800) 535-7088 or E-mail at [nass-wv@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-wv@nass.usda.gov).

August 25, 2006

### JULY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

**WEST VIRGINIA - Commercial red meat production** during July 2006 totaled 300,000 pounds. This was up 25 percent from July 2005 and up 17 percent from June 2006 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

**Commercial cattle slaughter** totaled 390,000 pounds live weight, up 77,000 pounds from July 2005. Cattle slaughter totaled 300 head, the same as the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,204 pounds, was up 113 pounds from a year ago.

**Commercial calf slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**Commercial hog slaughter** totaled 115,000 pounds live weight, up 6,000 pounds from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, the same as July 2005. The average live weight, at 216 pounds, was down 16 pounds from the previous year.

**Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter** was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

**UNITED STATES - Commercial red meat production** totaled 3.78 billion pounds in July, up 5 percent from the 3.61 billion pounds produced in July 2005.

**Beef production**, at 2.20 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, up 4 percent from July 2005. The average live weight was up 18 pounds from the previous year, at 1,272 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 12.0 million pounds, 4 percent below July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 57,900 head, down 1 percent from July 2005. The average live weight was 10 pounds below last year, at 340 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.55 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.88 million head, 3 percent above July 2005. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 265 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 13.2 million pounds, was down 1 percent from July 2005. Sheep slaughter totaled 202,100 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, down 3 pounds from July a year ago.

**January to July 2006 commercial red meat production** was 27.1 billion pounds, up 5 percent from 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

**July 2005** contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

**July 2006** contained 21 weekdays (including one holiday) and 5 Saturdays.

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